GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:29
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
BAN ON TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES IN N.E. REGION
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has banned telecommunication services in parts of North Eastern Region bordering Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the villagers living within 10 km.of the border are being provided mobile service from neighbouring country;

(d) if so, whether the Government has made any efforts to find out the number of said service providers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check and stop such illegal activities in border areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (f) No, Sir. Landline telecommunication services can be provided in the entire geographical territory of the country. As per Cellular Mobile Service license, provision of mobile service within 10 km. of the international border and as per Unified Access Service license, setting up of Base Trans-receive Station (BTS) within 10 km. of the international border requires clearance from the Government.

It was reported that mobile signal of service provider of Bangladesh is available in some places in the villages along the international border. The presence of signals of mobile operators of Bangladesh within the geographical territory of India is being handled by the Ministry of External Affairs at diplomatic level with the Government of Bangladesh.